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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/566,486	01/30/2006	Michela Bettati	T1630P	3584
210 7590 02/25/2008 MERCK AND CO., INC			EXAMINER	
P O BOX 2000 RAHWAY, NJ 07065-0907			RAHMANI, NILOOFAR	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1625	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

pplicant(s)
ETTATI ET AL.
rt Unit
625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address -- Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS,

- WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a repty be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication
 Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
- earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

- Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>30 January 2006</u>.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 - 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-7 and 10 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 - 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____
 - 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 - Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/30/06.

- Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: ____

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DETAILED ACTION

 Claims 1-7, and 10 are currently pending in the instant application and claims 8-9 are cancelled.

Priority

 This application is file on 01/30/2006, which is a 371 of PCT/GB04/03277, filed on 07/29/2004, which claims priority of UNITED KINGDOM 03184470, filed on 08/05/2003.

3. Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

There are many factors to be considered when determining whether there is sufficient evidence to support a determination that a disclosure does not satisfy the enablement requirement and whether any necessary experimentation is "undue". These factors include 1) the breadth of the claims, 2) the nature of the invention, 3) the state of the prior art, 4) the level of one of ordinary skill, 5) the level of predictability in the art, 6) the amount of direction provided by the

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inventor, 7) the existence of working examples, and 8) the quantity of experimentation needed to make or use the invention based on the content of the disclosure. In re Wands, 858 F.2d 731, 737, 8 USPQ2d 1400, 1404 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

- 1) The breadth of the claims.
- 2) The nature of the invention,
- The state of the prior art,
- 4) The level of one of ordinary skill,
- 5) The level of predictability in the art,
- 6) The amount of direction provided by the inventor,
- 7) The existence of working examples,
- 8) The quantity of experimentation needed to make or use the invention based on the content of the disclosure.

The nature of the invention: The instant invention is drawn to a method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

The state of the prior art: "The amyloid hypothesis is still used to explain the pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease. Despite all progress made, however, the mol. causes of the amyloid pathol., and of the tau pathol., tend to be ignored in most patients with this disorder (sporadic, late-onset). Mutant genes for amyloid precursor protein (APP) or presenilin cause early-onset familial Alzheimer's disease (<1 % of all cases) and have helped to elucidate APP processing and

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amyloid-peptide formation by α , β , and γ secretases. Inhibition of production of amyloid peptides by inhibitors of β , and γ secretases has been suggested as the rational and most specific therapeutic approach. Alternatively, or addnl., the activation of a secretase would increase non-amyloidogenic processing of APP." (Dewachter et al., Lancet Neurology (2002), 1(7), 409-416).

The predictability in the art: It is noted that the pharmaceutical art is unpredictable, requiring each embodiment to be individually assessed for physiological activity. *In re Fisher*, 427 F. 2d 833, 166 USPQ 18 (CCPA 1970) indicates that the more unpredictable an area is, the more specific enablement is necessary in order to satisfy the statute. In the instant case, the instantly claimed invention is highly unpredictable since one skilled in the art would recognize that in regards to the therapeutic effects, whether or not the compounds of formula of claim 1 would be useful for treating a pharmacological condition in a subject.

Amount of guidance/working examples: Applicant provides no guidance for using a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula (I) or (II) could treat any and all known or unknown diseases. Nor does applicant identify what diseases are treatable by therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula (I) or (II).

The breadth of the claims: The breadth of claims is drawn to a method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

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The quantity of undue experimentation needed: Since the guidance and teaching provided by the specification is insufficient for treating of diseases associated with (APP) (amyloid precursor protein)using a a compound of formula (I) or (II), one of ordinary skill in the art, even with high level of skill, is unable to use the instant compounds as claimed without undue experimentation.

The level of the skill in the art: The level of skill in the art is high. However, due to the unpredictability in the pharmaceutical art, it is noted that each embodiment of the invention is required to be individually assessed for physiological activity by in vitro and in vivo screening to determine which compounds exhibit the desired pharmacological activity and which diseases would benefit from this activity.

Taking all of the above into consideration, it is not seen where the instant claim 10, for treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, have been enabled by the instant specification.

4. Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7 are patentable over Belanger et al., WO 2001070677, which includes the exemplified compound:

RN 362654-13-5

CN Benzenesulfonamide, N-(9-syn)-bicyclo[4.2.1]non-3-en-9-yl-4-methyl-

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, which is

not substituted at the position corresponding to instant variable position R^4 , and lacks the moiety containing X. Therefore, the claims are free of prior art.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Niloofar Rahmani whose telephone number is 571-272-4329. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Janet Andres, can be reached on 571-272-0867. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NII OOFAR RAHMANI

D MARGARET SEAMAN

02/13/2008

PRIMARY EXAMINER

GROUP 1625

/D. Margaret Seaman/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1625

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